

CHAPTER 290

EDUCATION - POSTSECONDARY

SENATE BILL 19-231

BY SENATOR(S) Moreno and Bridges, Court, Crowder, Foote, Pettersen, Story, Winter;
 also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Exum and Tipper, Arndt, Benavidez, Bird, Buckner, Buentello, Caraveo, Coleman, Cutter, Duran,
 Esgar, Froelich, Galindo, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Kipp, McCluskie, McLachlan, Melton,
 Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Roberts, Sirota, Snyder, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Weissman, Becker.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE COLORADO SECOND CHANCE SCHOLARSHIP IN THE PURSUIT OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR YOUTH PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED TO THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly finds and declares that youth who have been committed face many obstacles upon release from the division of youth services in the department of human services, including homelessness, poverty, issues with school reenrollment, addiction, and unemployment. Financially investing in the educational success of youth involved with the division of youth services in the department of human services has proven to have significant positive impacts on reducing recidivism.

(2) The general assembly further declares the Colorado second chance scholarship created in part 12 of article 3.3 of title 23, Colorado Revised Statutes, is intended to award scholarships for the pursuit of a postsecondary credential and gainful employment for youth previously committed to the division of youth services in the department of human services.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 12 to article 3.3 of title 23 as follows:

PART 12
 COLORADO SECOND CHANCE SCHOLARSHIP

23-3.3-1201. Colorado second chance scholarship - creation - eligibility.

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION THE COLORADO SECOND CHANCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS PART 12 AS THE "SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM". SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SHALL AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO ASSIST PERSONS PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED TO THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IN THE PERSONS' PURSUIT OF A POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL. THE ADVISORY BOARD CREATED IN SECTION 23-3.3-1203 SHALL AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS ON A NEED BASIS, BASED ON THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN SECTION 23-3.3-1203 (3).

23-3.3-1202. Program coordinator - duties. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL APPOINT A PROGRAM COORDINATOR WHO SHALL COUNSEL AND SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS BY REGULARLY MEETING WITH RECIPIENTS TO SET EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT GOALS AND CONNECT STUDENTS WITH WRAPAROUND SERVICES.

23-3.3-1203. Colorado second chance scholarship advisory board - creation - duties - report - rules - repeal. (1) THERE IS CREATED THE COLORADO SECOND CHANCE SCHOLARSHIP ADVISORY BOARD, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "ADVISORY BOARD", WHICH CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE MEMBERS:

(a) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

(b) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

(c) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

(d) THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR OF THE COLORADO SECOND CHANCE SCHOLARSHIP; AND

(e) AN INDIVIDUAL PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED TO THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES THROUGH LIVED EXPERIENCES APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

(2) THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2019, AT A TIME AND PLACE TO BE DESIGNATED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE. THE BOARD SHALL MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES EACH YEAR AND SHALL ESTABLISH BY RULE THE PROCEDURES BY WHICH A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP. AT A MINIMUM, THE RULES MUST SPECIFY THE INFORMATION A PERSON SHALL SUBMIT AND THE DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION.

(3) THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS UP TO TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO APPLICANTS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

(a) AN APPLICANT'S PRIOR COMMITMENT TO THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;

(b) AN APPLICANT'S DEMONSTRATED DEGREE OF FINANCIAL NEED, BASED ON THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE APPLICANT;

(c) AN APPLICANT'S ACCEPTANCE TO AN INSTITUTION THAT OFFERS POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIALS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO AN ACCREDITED TRADE SCHOOL, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CERTIFICATE PROGRAM, OR OTHER INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND

(d) ANY OTHER CRITERIA ADOPTED BY RULE OF THE ADVISORY BOARD TO IDENTIFY PERSONS IN THE GREATEST NEED OF ASSISTANCE IN THE PURSUIT OF ANY POST-SECONDARY CREDENTIAL.

(4) THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL SET THE AMOUNT OF EACH SCHOLARSHIP BASED ON THE PERSON'S DEGREE OF FINANCIAL NEED, THE COST OF ATTENDANCE, THE AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR THE APPLICABLE BUDGET YEAR, AND THE ANTICIPATED NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO WILL APPLY TO THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IN THE COURSE OF THE APPLICABLE BUDGET YEAR.

(5) THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL REPORT ON THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE ANNUAL HEARING PURSUANT TO THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 2.

(6) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2022. PRIOR TO SUCH REPEAL, THE COLORADO SECOND CHANCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 24-34-104.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **add** (23)(a)(XI) as follows:

24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative declaration - repeal. (23) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both, are scheduled for repeal on September 1, 2022:

(XI) THE COLORADO SECOND CHANCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 23-3.3-1201.

SECTION 4. Appropriation. For the 2019-20 state fiscal year, \$305,145 is appropriated to the department of higher education. This appropriation is from the general fund and is based on an assumption that the department will require an additional 0.8 FTE. To implement this act, the department may use this appropriation for the Colorado second chance scholarship program.

SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3)

of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: May 28, 2019